IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re. Appln. of: SHINOHARA et al.

Filed: October 21, 2003

For: SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY AND PROCESS FOR

FABRICATING THE SAME

DOCKET: NEC 19851 DIV

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sirs:

Prior to examination of the subject Application, please amend the Application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this Amendment.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this Amendment.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this Amendment.

HAYES SOLOWAY P.C.

130 W. CUSHING ST. TUCSON, AZ 85701 TEL. 520.882.7623 FAX. 520.882.7643

175 CANAL STREET MANCHESTER, NH 03101 TEL. 603.668.1400 FAX. 603.668.8567